UTAH STATE AND COUNTY COOPERATIVE

Apiary Program

ESTABLISHED 1892

2019 Summary of Accomplishments

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) coordinates a statewide honey bee inspection program in cooperation with the state's County Bee Inspectors. The program's objective is to protect managed colonies from abiotic and biotic threats through inspection and education. Below is a summary of the state's accomplishments for 2019.

State Inspections

- Over 1,500 hives in 156 apiaries were inspected for various maladies.
- Diseases were field diagnosed and lab verified.
- Inspectors worked with beekeepers to treat or destroy hives infected with American foulbrood.

INSPECTION RESULTS

Number of hives infected

American foulbrood—22

European foulbrood—115

Chalkbrood—70

Parasitic mite syndrome—45

Small hive beetle—6

National Bee Survey

Utah participated in the USDA National Honey Bee Survey, which monitors for exotic pests and assesses overall colony health nationwide. 24 apiaries were sampled and no exotic pathogens or pests were detected.

Outreach & Education

- Taught four advanced trainings on honey bee disease and pest diagnostics across the state.
- Hosted the 4th annual Utah Honey Bee Health Conference in Tooele.

Pollinator Protection

UDAF conducted extensive public education efforts regarding best practices to protect bees from pesticide exposure and creating pollinator-friendly habitat:

- Pollinator protection displays and literature placed in the pesticide section of dozens of retail stores.
- Three intensive trainings of applicators on ways to prevent pesticide poisonings of bees.
- Distributed hundreds of bee-friendly seed packet mix at events around the state.

Varroa Mite Alert

Registered beekeepers in the state were sent a postcard alert to warn of excessive Varroa mite infestations from the months of August through October. Beekeepers were urged to monitor and treat as needed during these months.

For more information about Utah's Apiary Program visit:
http://ag.utah.gov/plants-pests/beekeeping.html
To request an inspection call: 801-538-4912

Foulbrood Detections—2019